DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 070 479 LI 004 031

TITLE	Minnesota Long Range Plan for Library Service, 1972.
INSTITUTION	Minnesota State Dept. of Education, St. Paul. Library Div.
PUB DATE	72
NOTE	29p.; (37 References)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS	Evaluation; *Library Planning; *Library Programs; *Library Services; *Objectives; State Libraries; *State Program
IDENTIFIERS	Library Services and Construction Act; LSCA; Minnesota; *State Plans

ABSTRACT

The purposes of this document which is the 1972 version of the long-range plan for library development are: to identify the broad goals of library service; to delineate specific objectives which will be involved in reaching those goals; to assess the existing situation with regard to both objectives and goals; to determine what procedures, projects and programs should be implemented; to assess the effectiveness of such steps; and, to propose evaluation techniques. The following areas are reported upon in this context: reorganizing the State Library Agency; networking; public library development; state aid to public libraries; service to ethnic minorities, the disadvantaged, the blind, the physically handicapped, the homebound, isolated, aged, and institutionalized persons; public/school library relationships; school libraries; academic libraries; public relations; and, library education. (Other State Plans are: LI003985-003993, LI003995-004004, LI004027-004030, LI004032-004035, and LI004038 through 004046.) (SJ)

ED 070479

MINNESOTA LONG RANGE PLAN FOR LIBRARY SERVICE, 1972.

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Minnesota State
Department of Education
Library Division

St. Paul

1972

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LI 004 031

Minnesota

Long Range Plan for Library Service

1972

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100.0 Foreword

For the purposes of this document, library service is defined as follows:

> The total process of the acquisition, preparation, organization, storage, retrieval and delivery to users, of any form of recorded communication in any medium, or any media which may be developed in the future.

The document constitutes the 1972 version of the long-range plan for the development of total library service in the State of Minnesota. Its purposes are:

1. To identify the broad goals of that service;

2. To delineate specific objectives which will be involved in reaching those goals;

3. To assess the existing situation with regard to both objectives and goals;

4. To determine what procedures, projects and program will be selected as steps to be taken in the next five years to reach specific objectives;

5. To assess the effectiveness of such steps; and

6. To propose methods for evaluating objectives, procedures, projects and programs in an ongoing framework which will permit revision and adjustment as may be required by unforeseen problems or changes in the social, economic and legal climate in which this plan will be operational. (See Bibliography Nos. 5, 11, 21, 29, 30, 33, 34, 36.)

The content has been developed out of a combination of study and research; public, official and professional concern; consultation and decisions going back many years. Many elements have grown out of earlier long-range plans. In fact, much of what is proposed to be done will be a continuation of programs which have been operational for lengths of time ranging from one to fifteen years. Examples are:

1. The state aid to public libraries program, with its basic requirements, which was first passed by the 1957 legislature, which has promoted regional public library systems. (See Bibliography Nos. 3, 14, 27.)

2. The state program of financial assistance to inter-library cooperation between different kinds of libraries which was first passed by the 1965 legislature.

3. The state funding of the communication, retrieval and dissemination elements in the state-wide network which came from the 1971 legislature.

It is impossible to identify all the public and private agencies and organizations which have contributed ideas, encouragement, and hard work to the development of this plan, and/or the matrix out of which it evolved. Among those which should be listed are:

- Minnesota Library Association
  - Library Development Committee: 1956-1960 and its successor
  - Library Planning and Development Committee: 1968-
  - Academic Library Division
  - Public Library Division
  - Library Trustee Division
- Minnesota Association of School Librarians
- Minnesota Chapter, Special Library Association
- Minnesota Chapter, American Society of Information Science
- University of Minnesota
  - The University Libraries
  - Library School
  - Agricultural Extension Service
- State Agencies and Departments
  - Office of the Governor
    - First Governor's Conference on Library Service, 1968
    - Second Governor's Conference on Library Service, 1971
  - State Planning Agency
  - Department of Corrections Libraries
  - Department of Public Welfare Libraries
  - Higher Education Coordinating Commission
  - State College Board
  - State Junior College Board
  - State Department of Education
    - Advisory Committee on the Library Services Act, 1957-1968
    - Statewide Advisory Council on Library Service, 1968-
    - Division of Administration, Public Libraries Section
    - Division of Instruction, School Libraries Unit
    - Division of Vocational Education

Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (CLIC)

Representatives for the private colleges

Friends of Minnesota Libraries (affiliated with but not actually a part of the Minnesota Library Association)

The assessment of the existing situation, and the assessment of needs, together with certain projections of potential change which will affect future needs and the means of meeting such needs are based on a combination of a number of studies and analyses, which were done specifically for Minnesota or for portions thereof, and of nationally oriented research which can be accepted as valid in its application to Minnesota. An example of the latter is the great mass of data on who uses the public library, with the concomitant implications of who does not.

The major items among the former are in the bibliography. Individual items in the bibliography have been numbered for convenience in referring to them in the text of the plan. In the text they are cited in the following form: (See Bibliography No. ___)

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100.2 Advisory Council on Library Services

The Advisory Council on Library Services, appointed under the provisions of the Library Services and Construction Act, consisted of the following persons during the period of the preparation of this plan. The position or status is given, with indication of minority group representation where appropriate.

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(Minnesota Library Association)

101.0 Introduction

Any statement of goals and objectives for social institutions or activities must be grounded in a combination of philosophical concepts or ideals and the relevant practical considerations. The ideals come first, because without them activities have no direction. For that reason, the ideals and their philosophic bases are given first. The practical considerations will be part of the context given for each specific goal.

The basic concept is that all libraries are agencies of education in both broad and narrow senses of the word.

There is ample evidence to the effect that facts, information, ideas and inspiration, as found in recorded communications, are absolutely necessary in the most basic sense to the successful behavior of individuals and groups in contemporary society. There is also evidence of an acceleration in the realization of their importance. These elements are basic to all education, whether conducted in classrooms at various age and academic levels, or pursued individually through libraries and other agencies. Most of the content of this cluster of fact, information, idea and inspiration has been recorded in one or more of several forms (or media) which can be preserved, stored and retrieved repeatedly whenever the need or desire for use arises. What is just as important is that this record is usually in the form or medium of expression which is easily understood and readily assimilated by the individual or group wanting to use it.

An important consideration from the library viewpoint: It is the communication content which is important, and that the medium by which the content is communicated may not be. It can become important because of specific characteristics of users: braille and talking books for the blind, or projected motion pictures for a large gathering are typical examples.

There remains the ideal of providing convenient and easy access to such communications content, and providing it in a usable form and in a context relevant to the situation in which the user finds himself at the time the need for its use arises. The variables involved here range widely. Consider the implications for ease of access in blindness, semi-literacy, physical handicaps, or great distances.

To repeat: the concept basic to this whole plan is that the collection, retrieval and dissemination of all the media of communication are valid library functions and are covered by the term library service. It is presently impractical to expect that the totality of recorded communication can be, or even need be, stored in a single library. This, in turn, implies the requirement for an organized system of inter-change of materials of communication between libraries of all kinds, and the need for widespread means of identifying the resources of libraries accompanied by an efficient method of relaying requests for materials from one library to another.

To conclude, the over-all long-term goal of this entire plan can be summed up as follows:

GOAL: There shall be available to every resident at a point which he can reach conveniently and with ease, an outlet for library service which is capable of meeting a majority of the recurring needs of most people and the

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physical needs of people having use problems or physical handicaps; which is linked with other libraries in a manner that renders the resources of these other libraries available to its own clientele whenever such additional resources are required. (See Bibliography Nos. 3, 27, 29.)

A careful reading will show that this applies to all kinds of libraries, and to many different ranges of convenience, ease and relevance. The definitions of these criteria differ between scholar, student, businessman, housewife and child; between special, academic, public and school library clienteles; between normally mobile people and the handicapped; and between the normally sighted and the blind or those with limited or restricted vision. They also may differ between the literate and the functionally illiterate, between the free and the confined, or between the majority population and various minority groups. As a general goal, it is designed to cover them all. Specific goals contributing to this are contained in each section of the plan.

101.1 Priorities

The various goals and objectives, within various categories of library concern and activity, have been ranked by the Advisory Council on Library Service in the order which follows in Sections 102 to 114. When goals and objectives are reached, or when it is found desirable to alter the priority assigned to any activity, this Section 101.1 will be revised.

Some of the objectives with low priority may have been assigned low priority because of the ease with which they can be accomplished. In any event, progress toward the various goals can be expected to alter priorities, and undoubtedly will. (See also Section 115.0.)

102.0 Reorganizing the State Library Agency

Goal: To strengthen the State Library Agency (now Office of Public Libraries and Inter-Library Cooperation, State Department of Education) in its role as coordinator and consultant to public libraries and coordinator of relationships between all kinds and types of libraries in Minnesota.

102.1 Context

The State Library Agency in Minnesota, as defined by the Library Services and Construction Act, is the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-Library Cooperation, Division of Administration, State Department of Education.

Its legally stated functions are:

(a) Advice and consultation to local libraries, public officials and citizen groups on matters related to library service. Traditionally, this has been confined to public library service.

(b) Administration of state and federal aids for public library service and construction.

(c) Administration of state and federal aids for inter-library cooperation.

(d) Provision of inter-library loan back-up services and reference assistance to local public and school libraries.

More recently, because of amendments to the Library Services and Construction Act, the agency has responsibility to monitor and supervise federal aids for institution libraries and library services to the blind and physically handicapped.

The State's interest in Academic Libraries is administered by the University Board of Regents, the State College Board and the State Junior College Board. Their interest is coordinated by the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission, which also has coordinating responsibility for the private college sector.

The State's interest in School Libraries is administered by the office of the Supervisor of School Libraries in the Division of Instruction, State Department of Education.

There are special libraries at the state level, not officially connected with the Office of Public Libraries and Interlibrary Cooperation, which have responsibility for History and Archives, Law, Public Health, Welfare and Medicine, Corrections, Education, Highways, and Legislative Reference.

102.2 Objective

To assure total library service to the people of Minnesota by

(a) Establishing the location of the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation at a level where it can speak for and support the interests of all libraries.

(b) Assisting with the coordination of the various libraries and their functions.

(c) Administering the use of state and/or federal grant funds in the operations of public libraries and for inter-library cooperation. This would not require the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-Library Cooperation to have administrative authority over any other state departmental or special library.

(d) Strengthening the planning, research and developmental functions of the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-Library Cooperation to provide a broader range of consultant services and in-service training programs, and to devote more energy and time toward reaching the goals established in this plan.

102.21 Task

To have the position of Director of the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation at a level commensurate with the responsibility in the Department of Education.

102.22 Task

To have the Minnesota Advisory Council on Library Services function as a permanent Council, given directions by its own Executive Committee in concert with the director of the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation.

102.23 Task

(a) To divest the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation of direct and indirect library service functions in the purchasing, processing and distribution of books and other library materials, and in providing general reference and inter-library loan services to other libraries, but to further strengthen the agency collection of professional library materials including print and audio-visual.

(b) To set up a contract between the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation and one or more strong existing libraries in the metropolitan Twin City area, which are suitably equipped and staffed, to perform reference services for libraries in the state.

(c) To set up a contract between the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation and one or more strong existing libraries in the metropolitan Twin City area, which are suitably equipped and staffed, to perform inter-library loan services.

(d) To restructure the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation budget to provide for contracting the services listed in tasks (b) and (c) above, rather than providing for them directly.

102.24 Task

To restructure and enlarge the staff of the Office of Public Libraries and Inter-library Cooperation by:

(a) Redefining the duties of reference positions to convert them to more appropriate positions.

(b) Continuing the responsibility for the maintenance of the professional library collection and assistance to the department in the preparation of bibliographies and the identification of library materials related to the extended functions of the agency.

(c) Working toward establishing positions of specialist consultants in the fields of inter-library cooperation, library networking, audio-visual service, continuing education of librarians, library buildings, academic libraries, special libraries, and other, as appropriate.

102.9 Evaluation

The evaluation of this section will be conducted under the direction of the following:

A library sub-committee of the State Board of Education.

The Advisory Council on Library Service.

Appropriate committees of the state legislature.

Outside consultants or consultant firms (when desirable).

Note: An ongoing review of the effectiveness of state agencies and programs is done by the legislature.

103.0 Networking

Goal: To establish a statewide network of library and information resources that will interface with other state, regional and national networks of all types of library and information resources.

For the purpose of this section of the plan, the following generalized definitions apply:

(a) "statewide network" is a formal arrangement whereby the materials, information, and services provided by a variety of libraries in the state are made available to all potential users;

(b) "interface" is connecting with, or communicating with, and/or being able to use other networks;

(c) "other state, regional, and national networks" are any reference and/or interlibrary loan networks in other states and those under discussion or proposed for regional groupings of states and/or on a national basis.

103.1 Context

Several examples of interlibrary cooperation in Minnesota are already in operation and under development. A brief description of some of these that are component parts of the projected statewide network follows:

103.11 Minnesota Interlibrary Teletype Exchange (MINITEX)

MINITEX is an interlibrary loan and photocopy service operated at the University of Minnesota. It became operational in January 1969 as a pilot demonstration project funded by grants from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation and from state and federal funds under Title III (Interlibrary Cooperation) of the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA), through the State Library Agency. Beginning with Fiscal 1972, funding for out-state academic library participation was provided by the state legislature through the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission with continued supplemental grants for public library participation from state and federal funds from the State Library Agency. Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (CLIC) libraries (see 103.15) participate on a reciprocal basis.

This program provides expedited service via a dedicated staff at the University of Minnesota library for interlibrary loan and photocopy directly to some 44 academic and public libraries in 22 cities in Minnesota. These libraries include all of the branches of the University of Minnesota, all accredited four-year colleges and universities in the state, members of CLIC, some of the accredited junior colleges, and most of the public library regional systems in the state. Every public library in Minnesota, and therefore every citizen of Minnesota, has access to MINITEX through the various public library nodes or the node located at the State Library Agency.

Requests are sent via TWX to the MINITEX office at the University where they are searched in the University Libraries' catalogs. Books held and available for loan are sent daily to the requesting library via United Parcel Service and photocopies are mailed daily to the requesting library via first-class mail. Materials for the CLIC libraries are handled by the CLIC pick-up and delivery van. When requests can not be filled, the requesting library is so notified by mail. Approximately 75% of the requests are for photocopies and 25% for book loans. During calendar 1971, 41,994 requests were processed and approximately 80% of these requests were filled.

103.12 Minnesota Union List of Serials

The computerized union list of serials (i.e., periodical publications, journals and magazines) project was undertaken as an adjunct to MINITEX to make known to participating libraries the serial holdings of the University of Minnesota libraries. The first phase of the project provides for publication in the spring of 1972 of approximately 40,000 titles currently being received at the University Libraries in Twin City campuses. To date, the first phase is nearing completion. The second phase calls for the addition of the titles received by twelve state departmental libraries, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Minneapolis Public Library, and the CLIC

member libraries to be completed in the summer of 1972.

The third phase will include unique titles and holdings of other libraries, plus the non-current titles (approximately 60,000) and holdings of the University, during the remainder of Fiscal 1973.

The first phase of the project is being carried out with funds allocated and granted to MINITEX. The second phase is being funded with a grant by the State Library Agency of state and federal funds from Title III, LSCA. The third phase will also be funded with MINITEX allocations and grants with additional funding being sought from other sources.

103.13 Information for Minnesota (INFORM)

INFORM is an advance reference and research service provided by the University of Minnesota (Wilson Library), James J. Hill Reference Library, St. Paul Public Library, and Minneapolis Public Library. Services such as literature searches (with optional continuous updating), bibliographies, research reports, compendia, statistical data, resource directories, etc., are available to business, industry, government, and the general public on an hourly fee basis through contractual agreement.

The program is governed by a Board of Control comprised of the directors of the participating libraries and the State Library Agency. In addition to fees collected, funding comes from a grant from the James J. Hill Reference Library and a grant of state and federal funds from Title III, LSCA, from the State Library Agency. Begun in January 1972, INFORM is expected to become self-supporting through the fees charged for the service.

103.14 Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA)

MELSA has as one of its goals cooperation in regional and state-wide network development. To date, it has cooperated with the Extension Division of the University of Minnesota in a printed film catalog, two of the MELSA member-libraries are participating in the INFORM project, and there are other projects planned.

103.15 Cooperating Libraries in Consortium (CLIC)

CLIC is an organization made up of the libraries of seven private colleges and one special library in the Twin Cities. The college members are Augsburg College, Bethel College, College of St. Catherine, College of St. Thomas, Concordia College, Hamline University, Macalester College; and the special library is the James J. Hill Reference Library.

CLIC was officially incorporated in April 1969 and represents a collective resource of over one million volumes. Its basic purpose was to make the eight libraries in a broad sense one library by developing as many ways as possible to cooperate with each other so that the total resources of the organization can be increased and made easily available to the faculty and students of all members.

The governing body is a Board of Directors made up of the head librarians of each institution. It establishes policies to be carried out by a full-time coordinator operating from space provided in the Hill library. The membership fee is based on full-time equivalent fall enrollment. Programs include reciprocal borrowing implemented by a union catalog, a daily interlibrary pick-up and delivery service, and direct telephone access; a union list of serials of approximately 5,000 titles with a cooperative acquisitions program; and a unique contractual agreement with MINITEX which includes both lending and borrowing. Other programs are being studied and discussed.

103.16 Other Consortia and Interlibrary Cooperation

There are several other examples of consortia operating in Minnesota, ranging from one extreme of formal agreements between academic institutions (including, but not restricted to, libraries) in a geographic area which provide the several smaller institutions with nearly the same resources as one

large institution. At the other extreme are informal agreements among the various types of libraries in a city or given area which may include such forms of cooperation as union lists of serials, shared resources, cooperative acquisitions, reciprocal borrowing, etc. In addition, some of the regional public library systems have formal reciprocal borrowing agreements with each other, either inclusive or for specific areas.

103.17 Inter-State Cooperation

A contract for interlibrary loan service has been in effect since 1970 whereby the Nobles County Library in Minnesota purchases service from the Sioux City (Iowa) Public Library. Nobles County now sends certain types of requests via TWX to Sioux City which fills all that it can. Unfilled requests are entered into I-LITE (Iowa Library Information Teletype Exchange) and may then be filled by any one of the twenty-one public, academic, or special libraries in that system.

Several other Minnesota libraries on the borders of the state have informal agreements with libraries in adjacent cities in neighboring states with include cooperative ventures such as those listed earlier in this section.

103.18 State Library Agency Interlibrary Loan and Reference Service

For many years, the State Library Agency has provided backup service in interlibrary loan and reference for public libraries and for individuals without public library service. Requests for materials not held locally, or, where applicable, in the resource centers of the existing public library regional systems, are either telephoned, mailed on a form supplied by the State Library Agency, or teletyped in the accepted ALA/TWX format, to the State Library Agency. These requests are checked against the collection (approximately 65,000 volumes) of the State Library Agency and, if held, sent to the requesting library. Requests not filled are forwarded to the St. Paul Public Library and if not filled there, sent to the Minneapolis Public Library. The two public libraries charge a small fee to the requesting library for each item lent and for postage. These three sources filled approximately 62% of the 21,532 requests received at the State Library Agency during calendar 1971.

103.2 Objective

The drafting and adoption of a state plan for a library and information resources network.

103.21 Task

To establish a task force of the Advisory Council, representative of all types of libraries, which would draft a detailed state network plan. This task force should be appointed by July 1, 1972 and should submit for approval a preliminary draft of a plan by July 1, 1973.

The following items are recommended for study by this task force:

(a) To secure commitment by all libraries to share their resources through formal arrangements;

(b) To establish bibliographic resource centers which could provide information on the location of available resources;

(c) To produce a Minnesota Union List of Serials (see Section 103.12);

(d) To consider new tools such as these proposed for the Minnesota Computer Assisted Network (see Bibliography No. 21) for developing union catalogs, book catalogs, microfilm applications, and remote terminals with online access to a computer holding the bibliographic data base of the entire state's library resources;

(e) To expand reference and information services which would include and go beyond the normal services of most libraries, such as using the special skills and knowledge of library personnel and computerized information services, especially those in machine-readable form (e.g., census data tapes and **Chemical Abstracts**), for which fees may be charged;

(f) To create a "Library of Record", combined with a collection of heavily used materials that would ensure the availability in a central depository of

13

unique and little-used, as well as heavily used materials, and for "last copies" of printed materials of all kinds. This should be designed to be useful by neighboring states as well as Minnesota.

103.22 Task

To establish a continuing advisory group to follow up this special task force. The advisory group should be appointed by July 1, 1973, to advise and assist the State Library Agency in coordinating and operating the network system. Library associations, the various types of libraries, and all organized existing sub-systems of networking should be represented.

103.3 Objective

To secure funding for the development of the network plan and the operation of the network system.

103.31 Task

To secure a commitment of network planning and development funds by July 1, 1973, from state and federal funds under Title III of LSCA and/or other sources which may be available.

103.32 Task

To secure permanent continuing funding for operation of the network system from the state legislature by July 1, 1975, such support to include the strengthening of resource centers, as well as the other objectives in this section.

103.4 Objective

To inform the people of Minnesota about network programs, what can be expected of the services and how they can be used.

103.41 Task

To develop a program that will make the information services of the network visible through the use of existing and new forms of communications media, education of librarians, library staffs, and personnel of other components of the network, etc. This program should be coordinated with Sec. 113, PUBLIC RELATIONS.

103.9 Evaluation

One of the criteria for evaluation of this section of the plan will be whether or not specified objectives and tasks are accomplished by specified dates. The network plan, as it evolves, will be compared with other network plans and will be evaluated to determine if it will meet the information needs of Minnesotans, taking into consideration cost/benefit ratios and operational efficiency.

104.0 Public Library Development

Goal: To complete the ongoing program of public library development:

(1) By establishing public library service in areas where it does not now exist and to strengthen and improve such service in areas where it does exist;

(2) By having one or more strong public library systems in each of the designated eleven official planning regions of the state which reach basic minimum standards for public library systems (for definition of systems, see System Standards to be developed under Objective 104.3);

(3) By providing a program for the construction or improvement of public library buildings which will meet national library standards and adequately handle the library program as planned.

104.11 Context

There has been a long-range plan for public library development in effect in Minnesota since 1957. It was developed by the State Library Agency in consultation with an Advisory Committee on Public Library Development (appointed by the State Board of Education) and the Library Development Committee of the Minnesota Library Association. (See Bibliography Nos. 14, 15, 16, 27.)

The major thrust in the plan adopted the concept of regionalization of public library service. On the basis of economic interest, highway and transportation patterns, trade areas, and existing intergovernmental relationships, the State Library Agency divided the state into eleven regions, each with a population of 100,000 persons or more.

Since that time, through the development of the State Planning Agency and through subsequent regionally oriented legislation, the State of Minnesota has officially designated eleven planning re-

gions which in general coincide with the early public library planning regions. Exceptions are allowable under law when justified for reasons of efficiency or economy.

104.12 Regional Library Organization

As of the end of fiscal 1972, there are three different kinds of multi-jurisdictional library organizations in effect in Minnesota.

There are eight (8) multi-county libraries, serving from two to six counties each, which are consolidated (i.e., having a single library board of trustees and administered by a single director).

They are:

Crow River Regional Library (Kandiyohi and Meeker Counties)

East Central Regional Library (Aitkin, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs and Pine Counties)

Great River Regional Library (Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns and Wright Counties)

Kitchigami Regional Library (Beltrami, Cass and Crow Wing Counties)

Lake Agassiz Regional Library (Clay and Norman Counties)

LeSueur - Waseca Regional Library (LeSueur and Waseca Counties)

Minnesota Valley Regional Library (Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties)

Northwest Regional Library (Pennington, Red Lake and Roseau Counties)

There are two large multi-county federations in operation, which are organized under the regional library law (MS 375.335) and have governing boards and executive officers. They are:

Arrowhead Library System comprising Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis Counties. This system operates library service in the rural portions of the six counties with three bookmobiles and some stations and books-by-mail. It has working agreements with twenty-six local public libraries in the six-county area, and a special contract with the Silver Bay Public Library which includes bookmobile service to a portion of Lake County. The principal reference and interlibrary loan center, with a MINITEX node, is the Duluth Public Library. The Virginia and Hibbing Public Libraries also provide specific contractual services to the entire region.

Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA). The membership is comprised of the Minneapolis Public Library, St. Paul Public Library, Hennepin County Library, Ramsey County Library, Washington County Library, Anoka County Library, Dakota County Library System, and Scott County Library System, and includes approximately 95% of the population of the Twin City metropolitan area. Membership is open to Carver County whenever it qualifies. MELSA programs include reciprocal borrowing, a union catalog of films, an interlibrary loan network, a reference network, a bibliography of foreign language materials with locations, newspaper indexing, and public relations.

The third type is represented by only one organization:

Southeastern Libraries Cooperating (SELCO). This is a federated public library system established under Chapter 317 (Nonprofit Corporations) of Minnesota Statutes. The original members are the Rochester Public Library (including Olmsted County), Austin Public Library (including Mower County, and the public libraries of Albert Lea, Owatonna, Faribault, Northfield, Stewartville, Zumbrota, Pine Island, Red Wing, St. Charles, and Winona. Membership is open to the remaining public libraries in the region. It was established late in 1971 and a director was employed effective April 1, 1972. As of this writing, it had officially adopted MINITEX participation and a reciprocal borrowing agreement. Other new programs are to be developed.

104.13

The population legally entitled to access to public library service at this point in time is just under 90% (89.268%),

while the population served by libraries meeting minimum Minnesota aid requirements is 80.8% of the total.

Served by libraries meeting minimum requirements 80.8%

Served by libraries not meeting requirements 8.468%

Not legally entitled to public library use 10.732%

104.14

Another important aspect of public library development is interlibrary networking, described in Section 103.

104.15

Closely related to networking is the practice of reciprocal borrowing which is now an integral part of regional and county library planning and has been instituted along most borders between library systems.

104.16

Inherent in the planning is the concept that the State Library Agency (Public Libraries Section, State Department of Education) shall serve as coordinator and monitor for the purpose of working toward the ultimate goals. (See Section 102.0.)

104.171

There are three relevant sections of state law regarding public libraries:

(a) The basic authorization for public library establishment and the support of public library service is in Chapter 134, Minnesota Statutes. This covers only city and village public libraries.

(b) The general county library law is Section 375.33 which by reference incorporates the provisions of Sections 134.09 to 134.15 in the city and village library law.

(c) The Regional Library Law is Section 375.335, immediately following and incorporating by reference the county library law. It refers also to the use of the Joint Exercise of Powers Statute, Section 471.59.

104.172

The Interstate Compact Law is in Chapter 134.

104.173

Legal constraints are the limits on tax levies for public library support and the provisions regarding state aid to public libraries in the biennial appropriation to the State Department of Education. (See Section 105.12 on State Aid to Public Libraries.)

104.18 Environmental Conservation Library (ECOL)

The 1971 legislature appropriated a sum of $50,000, if matched by other funds, to assist with the establishment of a highly specialized library collection in the Minneapolis Public Library which is open for use by people from the entire state. The funds for matching were raised under the auspices of the Athenaeum Library, a special endowed collection within the city library. This type of collection in depth provides a pattern of support and operation which can be emulated covering other subjects and in a number of different libraries.

104.19

The following is a brief summary of the public library building situation in the state's regions:

Arrowhead Library System:
- Duluth building, tentative, depending on availability of funds
- Many Carnegie-era buildings

Northwest Regional Library System:
- Thief River Falls, recent, under Title II

Kitchigami Regional Library System:
- Pine River, recent storefront building

Lake Agassiz Regional Library System:
- Recent building at Moorhead

East Central Regional Library System:
- New headquarters building badly needed—Cambridge
- New branches scheduled for Lindstrom and Mora

Great River Regional Library System:
- New headquarters building badly needed at St. Cloud
- New branch tentatively scheduled for Buffalo

West Central Area:

New suitable headquarters building needed

Good sub-regional headquarters buildings in Montevideo, Morris and Willmar exist

Southwest Area:

Recent suitable buildings exist at Marshall and Worthington

South Central Area:

Recent suitable buildings for sub-regions at Fairmont and Waseca

New building badly needed at Mankato

Southeast Area:

Rochester project in progress

New suitable sub-regionals at Austin, Albert Lea and Red Wing

Winona has a Carnegie-era building, still one of the best older buildings in the state

Twin City Metropolitan Area:

New buildings at Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Anoka County and Ramsey County

St. Paul building crowded but still quite usable

Anticipate strong move toward new headquarters buildings in Dakota and Washington counties

General statement of branches: There are twenty-two new smaller community library buildings constructed with LSCA, Title II and local funds, such as Breckenridge, LeSueur, and storefront-type libraries such as Milaca, Red Lake Falls and Winnebago.

104.2 Objective

To promote and effect the official establishment of public library service to the remaining 10% of the population of Minnesota not now legally served by public libraries. This consists of entirely rural population in thirty-six counties. Target date: End of fiscal 1977.

104.21 Task

To convince the Boards of County Commissioners of the thirty-six counties to exercise their official authority for the establishment of county-wide library service and levy a tax for its support and that they do this in cooperation with one or more other counties in their planning region.

Desirable alternative for most: To join an adjacent existing organized regional library system. Target date: End of fiscal 1977. (This objective is closely connected with the increase in state aid to public libraries proposed in Section 105.)

104.3 Objective

To restate in more specific and objective terms, Minnesota standards for public library service, incorporating national standards where appropriate.

104.31 Task

To create a task force of librarians, trustees and library users to review the current national standards and the existing state standards to draft a recommended set of standards for Minnesota public library development which can be used as a tool for the objective evaluation of individual library systems. Target date: Completion by end of fiscal 1973.

104.4 Objective

To administer state aid to public libraries in a fashion which encourages recipient libraries to work toward reaching the public library standards for Minnesota. (Also see Section 105, State Aid to Public Libraries.)

104.41 Task

To draft revised guidelines and regulations governing the state aid to public libraries which will require specific actions toward reaching standards in order to qualify for aid funds. Target date: Fiscal 1973.

104.5 Objective

To provide a program which will improve existing public library facilities and will encourage the constructon of new library buildings which are adequate in space, accessible to all people, efficient for operation, useful to and usable by the handicapped, the blind, the disadvantaged, and with facilities for new library programs using audio and visual equipment for networking and technical processes needs, i.e., buildings that will relate specifically to the development of library services as described in the long-range plan.

104.51 Task

To survey public library building needs through a questionnaire based on recommended national standards. Target date: January, 1973.

104.52 Task

To create a task force to study the results of the survey and to make recommendations regarding improvements in existing library buildings and new construction. Target date: July, 1973.

104.53 Task

To investigate further ways and means of financing library building projects with local, state and federal funds.

104.9 Evaluation

The first, and most pragmatic, evaluation will be the rate of which presently unserved populations are provided with public library service, and the extent to which public libraries are used. Other tools will be the comparison of developing services with Minnesota and National Standards for Public Library Services, and the extent to which aid funds have made it possible to attain certain standards.

105.0 State Aid to Public Libraries

Goal: In order to equalize the availability of easily accessible quality public library service, a broad and consistent base of financial support is a necessity and is set as a high priority goal for this plan.

105.1 Context

Minnesota Statutes 134.07 and 134.12 set the limits on the tax rate for public library support, specifying a maximum of eight (8) mills on the dollar of assessed valuation for the city and village libraries, and one of five (5) mills on the dollar of assessed valuation for county libraries.

State aid for public libraries is a line item in the biennial appropriation to the State Department of Education. It is $450,000 for fiscal 1972 and $500,000 for fiscal 1973. This is approximately 2.6% of current public library expenditures in the state.

The appropriations act specifies certain minimum efforts for qualifying for aid funds, authorizes continued participation in the federal Library Services and Construction Act, and gives the State Board of Education authority to adopt rules and regulations covering the granting of aid funds. This last provision is of the utmost importance, since it permits flexibility in the revision of requirements for qualifying for aid funds in line with new developments in the program or the revision of standards.

A formula for state aid for public libraries has been recommended by both the Minnesota Library Association and the Statewide Advisory Council on Library Services. The formula is: One Dollar ($1) per capita plus ten dollars ($10) per square mile for all qualifying public library systems. This would constitute approximately 16% of public library support with current local levels remaining the same. (Note: The American Library Association, in **Costs of Services Which Meet Minimum Standards for Public Libraries for 1971,** recommends $7.69 to $8.23 per capita, depending on the size of the library system.)

105.2 Objective

To develop further, with the proper appropriating bodies and decision-making public officials, the principle of state aid to public libraries in Minnesota; and

To establish the policy that state aid to public libraries shall be **supplemental** to, and not a replacement of basic local financial support for public libraries except as mandated by the legislature as a replacement of local property tax levies above a minimum basic local level of public library support.

105.21 Task

To secure from the legislature an increased appropriation sufficient to provide a desired basic minimum level of one dollar ($1) per capita plus ten dollars ($10) per square mile per year for all qualifying public library systems.

105.9 Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on:

(1) The extent to which state aid to public libraries will begin to approach the desired proportions and

(2) The extent to which aid funds assist public library systems to achieve quality library service according to National and State Standards for Public Library Service.

106.0 Service to Ethnic Minorities and the Disadvantaged

Goal: To continue to develop and further promote a program to provide, and equally distribute, quality library services to the urban and rural disadvantaged, and to ethnic minorities anywhere in the state of Minnesota.

106.1 Context

The Minnesota Office of Economic Opportunity has identified the counties which have substantial percentages and substantial numbers of economically disadvantaged families. Most counties of Minnesota having a family income below $3,000 per annum are served by county or regional library systems. (See Bibliography No. 23.)

The Black population of Minnesota comprises slightly less than 1% of the total population of the state. Most members of this ethnic group live in the central cores of the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul where there are library branches with some special services for them. There is a small concentration of Blacks in Duluth (where the public library has developed an "inner city" minority project under the Model City program) and a smaller one in the Rochester area.

The American Indian population is well under 1% of the total population of the state. It divides into two different groups, urban and reservation Indians, but exact statistics are difficult to pin down because there is a general pattern of movement from reservation to urban jobs and back to the reservation. Approximately one-half of the Indian population was urban at the time of the 1970 U.S. Census, most of it in the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth metropolitan areas.

There are seven Chippewa reservations in the state, one of which (the Mille Lacs Band) is scattered through three counties. The Red Lake, Leech Lake and White Earth reservations are the largest concentrations with the others having fewer than 200 persons each. All but the White Earth reservation are served regularly by bookmobiles and/or branch libraries from the regional public library system established by the county governments of the appropriate region. There are specific library services for Indians in Minneapolis, at the Franklin and Sumner branch libraries, and in the Duluth inner city project.

There are four Sioux reservations in the state, none of which has more than 200 persons in residence. The only one of these having regular access to public library service is Prior Lake. The children of the other three (Prairie Island, Upper and Lower Sioux Agencies) have access to libraries in the consolidated schools which they attend.

The next largest ethnic minority in permanent residence is the variously termed Mexican-American, Chicano, or Spanish-Speaking. During the cultivating and harvest seasons, this population is augmented by a substantial number of migrants. Over three-fourths of the permanent residents (around 4,000 persons) of this minority live in the Minneapolis-St. Paul central cities. The migrant workers, sometimes as many as 20,000 in a season, move through the southern and western counties following the truck-farming harvest and the sugar-beet cultivating and harvesting seasons.

There are branches of both Minneapolis and St. Paul public libraries in tracts where the Spanish-Speaking are concentrated, but few of the counties where migrants work seasonally have county-wide public library service and only two of these have provided any kind of special public library service to migrants.

The Chinese, Japanese and Filipino populations are quite small with more than 90% of them concentrated in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

A number of nationality-conscious groups of European origin have their cultural organizations. While some are strong and identify successfully with the general culture and language of the majority, there are others which ask for special library services related to

their European origins. Their special concerns have a place in public library service to ethnic minorities.

106.2 Objective

To develop a program that will further identify the urban and rural disadvantaged, concentrating on those counties having substantial numbers of poor families as delineated in the context (see Bibliography No. 23), and to assess their need for the access to quality library services.

106.21 Task

To administer public library aid funds in a manner providing guidance and assistance in further developing specially designed library services in Black, Indian and other appropriate population tracts, which would provide services tailored to the needs and interests of minority and economically disadvantaged groups.

106.3 Objective

To develop a program that will continue to identify ethnic minority groups, especially among the disadvantaged, and will consult with them in planning to meet their needs for library services. This will receive close attention in institutional library services.

106.31 Task

To continue holding seminars and institutes for improving librarians' understanding of ethnic feelings, opinions and contributions to society.

106.32 Task

To induce library participation in local community ethnic minority group activities related to library services.

106.33 Task

To develop a program of training for minority group people for work in libraries and to administer scholarship funds in a manner to encourage minority personnel to acquire professional competence and status on library staffs.

106.4 Objective

To promote a program that will continue to alert libraries and librarians to their responsibility in selecting material that identifies with and provides an accurate portrayal of each minority group. Such a program provides guidance and information concerning the selection of books and materials **about** minorities and **by** minority authors or producers.

106.41 Task

To develop, in cooperation with school libraries, a program to provide training and special assistance to help the disadvantaged in the use of library facilities and materials.

106.42 Task

To extend, in collaboration with the State Historical Society, a program of "oral history" to record the history of American Indian and other ethnic groups in Minnesota.

106.43 Task

To promote the production of library materials, with emphasis on the audio-visual media, which accurately depict the history and culture of the American Indian tribes indigenous to Minnesota.

106.9 Evaluation

A number of different criteria will be used to evaluate progress in this kind of service, among which are:

106.91

Statistics on the numbers of minority persons using libraries.

106.92

The beneficial impact of library services provided as evaluated by both the leadership and general users from among each minority group.

106.93

The numbers of personnel of libraries completing seminars, workshops and other in-service training methods; and the number of professional personnel from minority groups added to library staffs.

106.94

The quantity and quality of library material of all kinds concerning ethnic minority groups added to library collections from existing sources, or by projects which actually produce such materials tailored to Minnesota interests.

107.0 Service to the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Goal: To continue the expansion of programs which provide, and equally distribute, quality library services to the blind and physically handicapped population of the state.

107.1 Context

There are state agencies and a number of private organizations which are concerned about and involved with the blind and physically handicapped. The principal ones are the following:

Services to the Blind, Department of Public Welfare
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education
Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Outstanding among the private organizations are the following:

The Minneapolis and St. Paul Societies for the Blind
Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults

and a number of other local organizations and agencies.

The Department of Public Welfare operates an FM talking book radio network, the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at Faribault, Minnesota, and a very successful program for the preparation of books on tape on special demand.

Relating the qualified user to the use of these facilities has been an integral part of the program developed under Title IV-B, LSCA, by the State Library Agency in cooperation with the librarians and other leaders in the above-mentioned agencies and organizations.

107.2 Objective

To develop further the program of identifying the blind and physically handicapped in cooperation with all appropriate state and private agencies, and to consult the eligible users and the agencies which serve them in order to assess their needs for special library services.

107.21 Task

To inaugurate a program to publicize on radio, TV and all other news media, and special publications, the needs of and services available to the blind and physically handicapped.

107.22 Task

To establish efficient channels of communication between the agencies listed in the Context, with consideration given to establishing a coordinating committee to expedite this under the aegis of the Advisory Council.

107.3 Objective

To continue the development of ongoing programs of training for librarians and citizens on the access to and availability of special material and services for the blind and physically handicapped.

107.31 Task

To encourage the offering of courses about library services for the blind and physically handicapped in library science and in special education courses taught in a variety of academic institutions in the state.

107.32 Task

To continue to conduct workshops and institutes for librarians and citizen groups about library services for the blind and physically handicapped.

107.33 Task

To continue a policy of inducing library governing authorities to alter existing library buildings to make them accessible to and usable by the physically handicapped.

107.4 Objective

To improve and expand the availability of library materials in a variety of media which are especially suited to use by persons unable to use customary printed materials and to encourage experimentation in innovative techniques such as compressed speech.

107.41 Task

To continue the project for the production of tape-recorded materials for specific users.

107.42 Task

To create additional FM "Radio Talking Book" outlets to complete coverage of the entire state.

107.43 Task

To continue to expand the library service for the Regional Library for the Blind and the Physically Handicapped in providing materials in the form of Braille, talking books and tapes to eligible users.

107.9 Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on the number of additional users added to the existing rosters and on circulation statistics of the various kinds of materials used.

108.0 Institution Library Services

Goal: To continue to improve, expand and broaden library services to the residents in hospitals and correctional institutions to meet standards set by the American Correctional Association (No. 1 in Bibliography) and the American Library Association (No. 2).

108.1 Context

There are organized libraries, with at least one professional librarian, in the following correctional institutions:

State Prison, Stillwater
State Reformatory for Men, St. Cloud
State Training School for Boys, Red Wing
Minnesota Home School, Sauk Centre
Reception and Diagnostic Center, Lino Lakes

There is a small library in the Correction Institution for Women at Shakopee, which is augmented by contract service from the Scott County Library headquarters in Shakopee.

The Willow River and Thistledew Youth Conservation Commission Camps are served regularly every two weeks by bookmobiles from the East Central Regional Library and the Arrowhead Library System, respectively.

There is a "deposit collection" from the Arrowhead Library System at the St. Louis County Work Farm, and some other county and regional library systems have methods of serving inmates of local jails, but this effort is not extensive.

There are organized libraries for both patients and staff, with at least one professional librarian, in the following institutions operated by the Department of Public Welfare:

Anoka State Hospital, Anoka
Brainerd State Hospital, Brainerd
Cambridge State Hospital, Cambridge
Faribault State Hospital, Faribault
Fergus Falls State Hospital, Fergus Falls
Hastings State Hospital, Hastings
Moose Lake State Hospital, Moose Lake
Rochester State Hospital, Rochester
St. Peter State Hospital, St. Peter
Willmar State Hospital, Willmar
Glen Lake Sanitorium, Glen Lake
Braille School, Faribault
School for the Deaf, Faribault

The library at the Glen Lake Sanitorium serves as a center for the acquisition, storage and retrieval of medical and related journals for staff use. The services of this collection are available through the interlibrary loan arrangements with the State Library Agency to the public libraries of the state.

There is some strong hospital library service in the local private and public hospitals, but it is not extensive.

108.2 Objective

To expand and broaden the program for library services in state institutions to meet the new demands brought about by changing concepts for education and rehabilitation.

108.21 Task

To establish programs to coordinate library services in such institutions with other institution activities such as the educational, vocational, cultural and recreational programs. (See also Objective 106.3.)

108.22 Task

To expand the holdings of printed, audio-visual and multi-media materials to meet the special needs of individual residents.

108.23 Task

To establish a center for producing and housing audio-visual materials, which has the capacity to find and utilize outside resources and to coordinate loans and information exchange among the libraries.

108.24 Task

To develop a positive program for extending reception capabilities of the FM "Radio Talking Book" stations in hospitals and correctional institutions.

108.25 Task

To develop a program for the production of special library materials in a variety of media which have high interest levels for adults with very limited reading ability, cooperating fully with the "Right to Read" program. (Note: This Task, a state-wide problem, has been placed in this section for two reasons: (1) There is a high incidence of lack of reading skills among persons in the institutions, and (2) the facility combines well with Task 108.23.)

108.26 Task

To conduct more specialized in-service staff training in the form of workshops, tours and communication media such as newsletters and special bibliographies which will inform librarians and local community people of the need for and means of offering meaningful services of this kind.

108.3 Objective

To develop a positive program for the encouragement and development of library services to local correctional institutions, jails, and local community hospitals.

108.31 Task

To conduct training sessions similar to (or perhaps combined with) those described in Task 108.26, geared to the special requirements of this objective.

108.9 Evaluation

Two different criteria will be used:

(a) The measurement of program toward meeting, or exceeding, the standards cited in the goal.

(b) The number of persons (residents) making use of the facilities provided. An attempt will be made to measure any impact of the service on users which carries beyond their release from the institution.

109.0 Service to the Homebound, Isolated and/or the Aged

Goal: To improve, expand and broaden library services to persons who are home-bound, confined to nursing homes or homes for the aged, or handicapped, or otherwise isolated in a manner to inhibit their access to and use of normal library services.

109.1 Context

Some fifteen (15) public libraries and public library systems report regular deliveries to the homebound.

Bookmobiles are now serving more than 50 group resident homes for older people.

Books-by-mail service is available (on a limited basis in some cases; on a more elaborate basis in others) in 43 counties, for use by the geographically isolated and the home-bound.

109.2 Objective

To devise and execute new service programs designed to promote and improve library services at the local level for this target group, with emphasis on providing user guidance or other assistance in choosing the content and media most appropriate to the interest, level of difficulty, and physical condition or abilities of individual persons.

109.21 Task

To institute a number of experimental projects in different and differing areas of the state which will furnish printed catalogs of materials available in order to test the effectiveness of this method of reaching a larger proportion of the home-bound and non-institutionalized handicapped persons in the state.

109.22 Task

To establish a program of promoting more public knowledge and understanding relevant to this special type of library service, including a multi-media approach using spot announcements on TV and radio, newspaper and periodical articles, personal contacts, and other methods deemed appropriate.

109.23 Task

To coordinate this program with those described in Task 108.25 above.

109.3 Evaluation

The basic evaluation will be based on the number of individuals identified as eligible for this service who make use of it in a year and any observable increase in the number of users and volume of use.

110.0 Public Library/School Library Relationships

Goal: To develop coordinated school and public library programs for meeting educational and recreational needs of children and youth.

110.1 Context

At present, there is very little communication between school and public librarians. As a result, virtually no formalized cooperative programs are carried out by their agencies.

110.2 Objective

The exploration of methods which will enable school and public librarians in different sizes and types of communities to consider common problems and the development of collections and services that are supplementary.

110.21 Task

To develop, under the sponsorship of school library and public library organizations, effective patterns of interlibrary communication.

110.3 Objective

The initiation of a number of demonstration or experimental projects, involving school and public libraries, which seek alternative methods of accomplishing the goal.

110.31 Task

To implement at least two such projects in medium-sized communities to develop programs and submit reports for guiding decisions on future developments.

110.9 Evaluation

A combined group representing school and public libraries will be used to evaluate both the system proposed in the Task for Objective 110.2, and to evaluate the effectiveness of the experiments in Objective 110.3.

111.0 School Libraries

Goal: To develop in all school libraries, media (printed and audio-visual) programs to meet the educational needs of faculty and students for materials and services.

111.1 Context

Regulations of the Minnesoa State Department of Education require a central library in every elementary and secondary school building. These libraries have the responsibility for providing students and teachers with the kinds of services and materials needed to support the educational program. No school district is without libraries in its secondary schools and now that consolidation has eliminated the small independent elementary school, only a few districts are without central libraries in all of their elementary buildings. While not many libraries meet all of the Minnesota standards for staff, materials, budget, space and program, steady improvement has been evident. Funds from Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act have contributed considerably toward the building of local materials collections.

111.2 Objective

The revision of state standards for school libraries in terms of media centers.

111.21 Task

To establish a committee representing school librarians and audio-visual specialists, school administrators and classroom teachers, to draft new state standards in accordance with national standards and state needs for presentation to the State Board of Education as soon as possible.

111.3 Objective

Assistance to schools in the implementation of standards.

111.31 Task

To develop and conduct in-service sessions or workshops for all school personnel — administrative or instructional — having responsibility for implementing the new media standards or other media programs.

111.32 Task

To seek means for determining the current information materials need of students and teachers in different types and levels of schools.

111.33 Task

To expand the leadership role of the media personnel in the State Department of Education, and to extend the Department's media services to the schools, in accordance with the demands of changing educational programs and the new media standards.

111.34 Task

To establish regional media centers under the direction of media consultants or supervisors on the staff of the Learning Resources Unit in the State Department of Education.

111.4 Objective

Determination of areas of progress and areas needing further development at both the state and local level.

111.41 Task

To compile and periodically publish statistics for Minnesota school libraries or media centers by the State Department of Education, utilizing data processing wherever possible.

111.5 Objective

Participation and support by the media consultants in the State Department in the development of strong and up-to-date academic programs in Minnesota for the education of all media personnel.

111.51 Task

To assist, by consultation and conference procedures, in the adaptation of ongoing Minnesota public and private academic undergraduate and graduate programs in library and audio-visual specialist fields, in fulfillment of the new requirements for certificated personnel for media centers in schools.

111.9 Evaluation

The basic evaluation will be the extent to which school libraries meet the revised state standards with reference to programs of service, staff, materials, and facilities.

112.0 Academic Libraries

Goal: The improvement of academic libraries through the achievement of more cooperation and better coordination among the libraries in both state-supported and private junior colleges, colleges, and universities as well as with other types of libraries.

112.1 Context

Academic libraries are operated as integral parts of institutions of post-secondary education. They are located in universities, four-year colleges, two-year junior colleges, and the area vocational-technical schools. Most of the latter operate under public school boards. Some of the universities and four-year colleges have graduate programs leading to a master's degree and a few to a doctorate.

Most of the libraries are directed by librarians responsible to the administration or the governing board of the institution and their financial support is part of the total budget of the institution in which they are located. Each is primarily responsible to the faculty and students of its own institution but most, including those which are privately supported, have been permitted to cooperate in some existing forms of networking.

Those institutions accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools are, generally speaking, the ones with the strongest library service. The libraries in some of the newly-established junior colleges and area vocational-technical schools are still in the developmental stages and require additional growth to approach adequacy.

The Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission has the functions which its name implies. One of its major interests has been the coordination of library development and encouraging interlibrary cooperation. While it does not operate library service itself, it continues to serve as an "umbrella" agency under which both public and private academic library interests, public library interests, and special library interests have been brought together for mutual consultation and planning.

112.2 Objective

The establishment of a committee or council representative of all types of libraries to coordinate library services and planning for all types of libraries in Minnesota. (See Section 102.22.)

112.3 Objective

The establishment of a "Library of Record". (See Section 103.21 (f).)

112.4 Objective

The expansion of the Minnesota Union List of Serials to include the holdings of all academic and other major libraries in Minnesota. (See Section 103.12.)

112.5 Objective

The establishment and adoption by proper authorities of the principle that there should be an academic librarian on every accrediting committee which is responsible for examining any academic institution in Minnesota.

112.51 Task

The appointment of a committee to prepare a written proposal for submission to the appropriate accrediting bodies for their approval and implementation.

112.6 Objective

The adoption of an official state policy which provides that when new state colleges and junior colleges are established, planning shall include the provision of a library which is open and functioning on the day that the institution is opened to students.

112.61 Task

The appointment of a committee to prepare a written proposal for submission to the State College Board and the State Junior College Board for their approval and implementation.

112.7 Objective

An increase in the employment of ethnic minorities in academic libraries.

112.71 Task

The adoption and implementation of a policy of hiring students from ethnic minorities for part-time library work to better acquaint them with the library and its functions, and to encourage their communication of this information to other members (both student and non-student) of the minority groups.

112.72 Task

The encouragement of all academic library directors and governing authorities to adopt and implement a policy of making a major effort to employ library staff members from ethnic minorities.

112.8 Objective

The continued investigation of the need for research in the areas of library manpower needs, library education needs (see also Section 114), and other appropriate library problems.

112.81 Task

Continued communication among academic librarians and between academic librarians and librarians from other types of libraries to ascertain research needs. Since such communication appropriately occurs, among other occasions, at meetings of professional library associations, academic librarians should be encouraged to participate in such associations and appropriate meetings.

112.82 Task

Formation of a central clearinghouse on academic (and other) library research needed, underway, and completed.

112.83 Task

The creation of a full-time position in the State Library Agency for the coordination of the necessary research and development in solving appropriate academic library problems.

112.9 Evaluation

The product evaluation of this section of the plan will be largely accomplished in the evaluation procedures for Section 103. Other evaluation will be made primarily by a determination of whether or not objectives and tasks are accomplished and, if so, how well, and, if not, why not. Quantitative evaluations for this section are not basically applicable so most of the evaluation will be designed to be qualitative wherever appropriate.

113.0 Public Relations

Goal: To achieve widespread and intensive public awareness of the many and varied library services and resources available to Minnesota citizens, concomitantly reducing the sizes of traditional non-user groups, increasing the number of users, and expanding use by current users.

113.1 Context

Studies of library users and use have shown conclusively that the number of users is very small when compared with the number of potential users. Many non-users feel that the library is formidable and inaccessible; the librarians are busy and/or not friendly; there is nothing in the library that could help them. Many people have been found to be unaware of the range of services and materials available at libraries nor are they aware that materials not available at the local library may be borrowed from other libraries.

113.2 Objective

To assist library personnel to understand the image they project to the users and non-users of their communities; to understand how to use public relations methods and techniques to improve the image of the library, personnel, materials and services; to improve and increase the promotion of library services by means of all possible media.

113.21 Task

To develop and present recurring workshops on public relations for library staffs.

113.3 Objective

To inform library staffs and potential users of the various materials and services available to special groups such as the physically handicapped and the isolated.

113.31 Task

To develop and present recurring workshops covering the appropriate subjects for library staffs.

113.4 Objective

To make all kinds of information available to libraries on a state-wide basis.

113.41 Task

To improve and develop new forms of communications between libraries and to libraries to allow for rapid, efficient and economical flow of data and information.

113.9 Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on statistics of users and use as well as on professional observation.

114.0 Library Education

Goal: To achieve an articulated system of library education which will provide appropriate academic preparation for personnel seeking certificates for library, information center and media center personnel; and which will provide in-service and continuing education opportunities for professional and non-professional library personnel to acquire updated knowledge and skills appropriate to their job assignments and responsibilities.

114.1 Context

There is one academic institution, the University of Minnesota, which offers graduate programs in library and information science accredited by the American Library Association.

The College of St. Catherine offers an undergraduate major in library science which was accredited by the American Library Association until that organization stopped accrediting undergraduate programs. It concentrates on public and special library interests.

The State Colleges at St. Cloud and Mankato offer undergraduate and graduate programs for school library and media center professional personnel.

An undergraduate school library minor is offered in all four of the above, and in six additional colleges, which is accredited by the State Board of Education for beginning school librarian positions.

The State Library Agency, in collaboration with the Minnesota Library Association, or with the local chapters of the Special Libraries Association, has conducted workshops, institutes and seminars concerned with continuing education of professional library personnel.

The State Library Agency sponsors and conducts regular workshops, institutes and seminars for professional and non-professional personnel of public libraries.

There are two programs for the preparation of library technicians in state junior colleges and one in a college.

The only existing program of library certification is done by the State Board of Education for school library and media center professional personnel.

114.2 Objective

To establish a program of certification for professional personnel in the various kinds of libraries not presently covered.

114.21 Task

To secure passage in the 1973 legislature the drafted bill endorsed by the Minnesota Library Association and the local chapter of the Special Library Association, which would provide the legal basis for a program of certification for librarians.

114.22 Task

To obtain cooperation between operating librarians, library governing bodies, and appropriate academic institutions providing library education, in order to assure appropriate preparation in the various levels of library service proposed in the certification program.

114.3 Objective

To continue to improve efforts which provide in-service and continuing education for all levels of personnel involved in the provision of library service at the user or customer level.

114.31 Task

To implement the restructuring of the State Library Agency (see Section 102.0) in such a manner as to provide the staff necessary to meet the growing needs for continuing education for librarians through workshops, institutes, seminars and individual consultative services.

114.32 Task

To secure the funds from state, federal or other sources, necessary for implementing such continuing education on a regular basis and at a level of sophistication appropriate to the needs of the personnel for whom it is offered.

114.33 Task

To involve local community officials and concerned citizens, as well as library governing bodies, in programs concerned with library management and planning decisions, to increase their understanding of library programs and their implications for funding and potential benefit.

114.4 Objective

To increase the numbers of library professional staff coming from minority groups with emphasis on the American Indian, Black, and Spanish-surname minorities.

114.41 Task

To administer the existing scholarship program in a manner which gives emphasis on grants to students from the emphasized minorities. (See Section 106.33.)

114.5 Objective

To make maximal use of the capabilities of existing faculty and staff at both academic and practicing levels to enlarge and enrich academic and continuing programs of library education

114.51 Task

To formulate and formalize methods of continuous two-way communication and collaboration between practicing librarians in all kinds of libraries and the teaching faculties in academic programs of library education, using a variety of means such as jointly sponsored and conducted institutes and seminars, and the provision of visiting lecturers where appropriate.

114.9 Evaluation

In those cases where legislation or regulations must be adopted, the initial evaluation will be the securing of adoption, and subsequent evaluation will be on the basis of the numbers of personnel making use of the results, or in the case of minority personnel, the number of individuals from such groups added to library staffs.

In the case of workshops, institutes and seminars, there will be three evaluations:

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(a) The number of such conducted; and

(b) The variety of subject matter covered; and

(c) The numbers of persons attending.

These same criteria can be used in guiding the planning of future sessions and subjects.

A somewhat different measure to be used is the number of different kinds of libraries and organizations involved in sponsoring, planning and conducting institutes.

A more difficult, but at least partially valid, measure will be the response of participants regarding the degree of satisfaction with whatever the continuing education program has contributed to their competencies.

115.0 Conclusion

Many of the goals and objectives, especially those based on exactly measurable criteria, or upon recognized national standards of quantity, can be monitored and evaluated more readily than can those which can be evaluated only on subjective criteria.

In the delivery of library services, the quality of the service delivered is frequently found to be more important than the quantity. The delivery of one item of information which saves a human life is a more valuable contribution to society than the delivery of a large volume of trivial entertainment.

The on-going evaluation of the entire plan and its accomplishments will be based on the contribution to the "Quality of Life" in Minnesota. The overall long range goal given in the Introduction (Section 101.0) stresses the importance of the content of library service to individuals and groups. The use of such content should contribute to the quality of life in the person, the social group, or the area in which the service is given.

While the phrase "quality of life" is subjective in principle, it has been further qualified, if not completely quantified, by Dr. John O. Wilson (see Bibliography No. 25). The ingredients which go to make up the "good life" concept in Dr. Wilson's study, which will be used to evaluate progress under this Minnesota Plan for Library Service are the following:

1. Status of the Individual: Has library service helped to enhance human dignity, promoted maximum development of individual capabilities, and widened the opportunities for individual choice?

2. Individual Equality: Has library service helped with efforts to eliminate discrimination on the basis of race, sex, and religion?

3. The Democratic Process: Has library service helped in building an informed and involved citizenry, in improving the quality of public administration, or increasing collaboration and the sharing of power among all levels of government?

4. Education: Has library service helped to improve the quality and quantity of primary, secondary, higher, vocational and continuing adult education and training?

5. Economic Growth: Has library service contributed to the quantity and quality of growth, including capital investment in the public sector, and to an improved standard of living?

6. Technological Change. Has library service contributed to the research, and availablility of manpower or facilities, to maintain economic growth and improve living conditions?

7. Living Conditions: Has library service helped with the problems of general poverty and the decay of cities?

8. Health and Welfare: Has library service contributed to the quantity and quality of medical and welfare programs in both private and public sectors?

9. Agriculture and Rural Life: Has library service contributed toward the understanding of and possible solutions for the problems of agricultural economics and productivity, and to an improved level of living in rural areas?

10. Protection of the Environment: Has library service contributed to an understanding of the ecological importance of preventing damage to our environment, and of methods which can be used to reduce or eliminate such damage in the future?